development component and (ii) Peninsular rivers development component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up in 1982 as a registered Society under MOWR to carry out detailed studies for NPP, NWDA, based on water balance and other studies, identified 30 links (14 under Himalayan and 16 under Peninsular) for preparation of feasibility reports (FR), FRs of 16(2 Himalayan and 14 Peninsular) links have been completed by NWDA.

(b) and (c) Following three projects of interlinking of rivers (ILR) proposals of NWDA pertain to the State of Rajasthan:

1. Yamuna-Rajasthan Link Project
2. Rajasthan-Sabarmati Link Project
3. Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal Link Project

The feasibility report of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link and the pre-feasibility reports of the other too links have been completed by NWDA.

Polavaram project in Andhra Pradesh

3024. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to Polavaram project with the proposed design, 300 villages in 9 mandals in three districts of Andhra Pradesh would be sumerged displacing more than 2 lakh tribal people and their livelihood; and

(b) when there are better alternative project designs available that obviate such massive submergence, why the Central Government allowed to proceed with the present project design?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The State Goverment of Andhra Pradesh has reported that a total 276 villages (including hamlets) in 9 mandal in three districts of Andhra Pradesh would be submerged displacing 1,77,275 Nos. people out of which 60,770 Nos. are Schedule Tribes.

(b) The State has reported that thirteen alternative sites have been studied and the present site has been selected based on technical and

environmental considerations and there is no other alternative project proposal better than the present project proposal which can obviate or minimize submergence. The investment clearance for the project has not been accorded by the Planning Commission as it depends upon establishing its techno-economic viability, acceptance by the advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources, State Government obtaining necessary clearances from the Ministry of Environment and Forests for forest area and clearance from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Ministry of Environment and Forests has accorded clearance to the project in respect of environmental aspects.

Salary to the employees of NPCC

†3025. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the salary of the employees of NPCC Ltd. was not revised on 1st January, 1992 as well as 1st January, 1997.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the salary of all the officers and some of the employees has been revised from time to time.

(c) if so, the reasons for the discrimination being made with its employees; and

(d) by when Government would take steps to stop the discrimination being made by the managers of NPCC with its employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) The pay scales of employees of NPCC Ltd. borne on CDA pattern pay scales were revised as per the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission w.e.f. 1.1.96. The pay scales of employees who are borne on IDA pay scales which were due for revision w.e.f. 1.1.97 have been implemented w.e.f. 9.8.2002. The wage revision of workmen is pending due to a legal embargo issued by Industrial Court, Nagpur restraining the Management of NPCC to hold discussions from representatives of workmen Unions. The matter is still *sub-judice*.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.